

3600.1622-D1
April 13, 2004 (2:40pm)

Docket: AM-1622.D1

Remarks

Claims 2, 3, 8-12, 17-23, 28-31, and 34-37 remain in the application.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18-23, and 32 - 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Quartarone (U.S. Patent 5,104,514) in view of J. Linke ("Behavior of boron-doped graphites ...", hereafter Linke). The Examiner has rejected Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Quartarone, in view of Linke and further in view of Kizawa (JP 63-203098). Applicants disagree with these rejections as they have argued in the prior response. However, in the interest of expediting allowance, the rejected base claims and several dependent claims have been canceled. However, the dependencies of rejected Claims 18-23 and 34-37 have been amended so that these claims depend from allowed Claim 17 or Claim 29 and should therefore also be allowed. Clearly no new substantive issues are raised by the changed dependencies. It is noted that rejected Claim 12 already depends from allowed Claims 11 and 29.

The Examiner has allowed Claims 2, 3, 8-11, 17, and 28-31. Accordingly, all remaining claims should be allowed.

Entry of the amendment after final rejection is respectfully requested under 37 CFR 1.116 as canceling claims.

If any extension of time or other fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such required fee to Deposit Account 50-0636.

3600.1622-D1
April 13, 2004 (2:40pm)

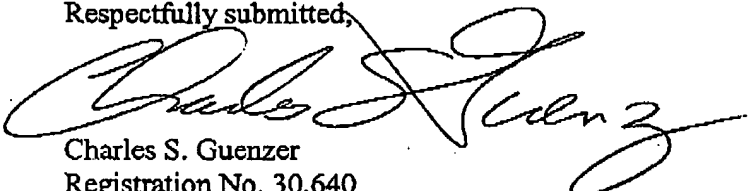
Docket: AM-1622.D1

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number, which is on California time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 13 April 2004

Correspondence Address
Patent Counsel
Applied Materials, Inc.
P.O. Box 450A
Santa Clara, CA 95052


Charles S. Guenzer
Registration No. 30,640
(650) 566-8040